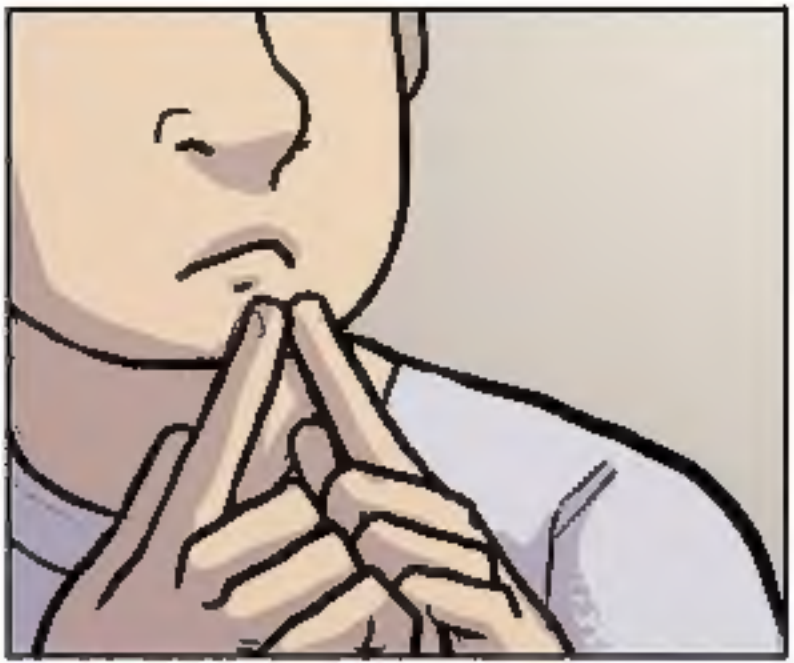
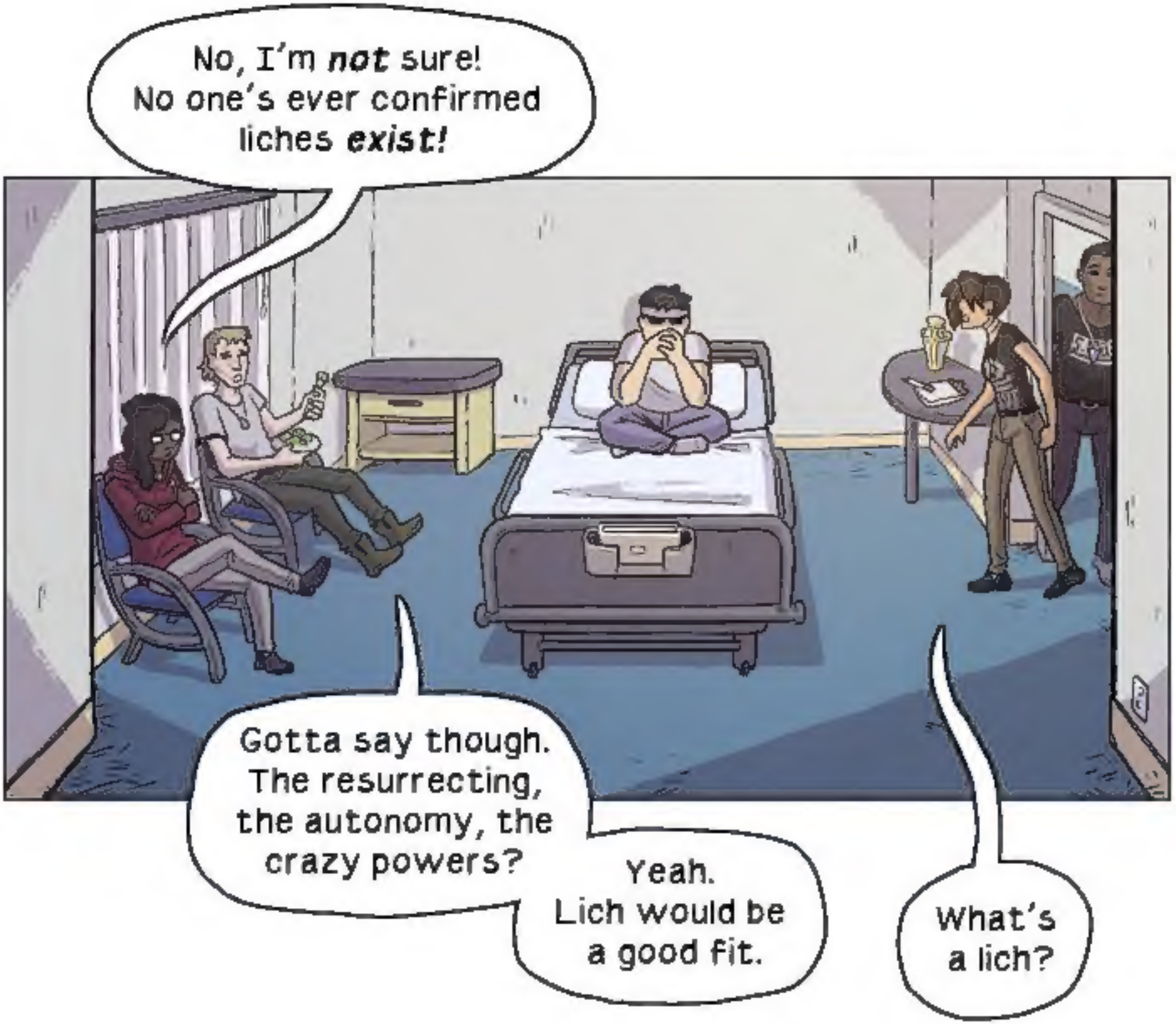
THE SWORD INTERVAL

BY BEN FLEUTER



A lich.
You're sure?


No, I'm *not* sure! No one's ever confirmed liches *exist!*
Gotta say though. The resurrecting, the autonomy, the crazy powers?
Yeah. Lich would be a good fit.
What's a lich?

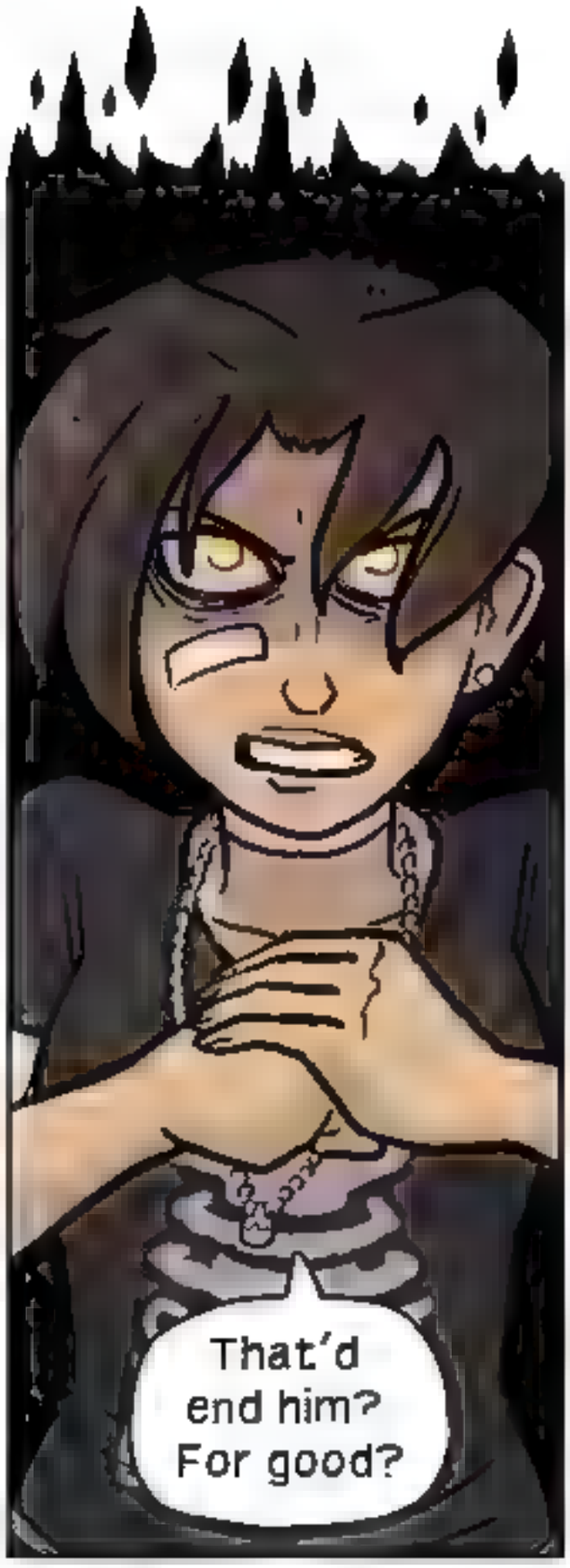
Hierophant is.
I... yeah probably? God. It's possible.

...
How do you kill one?

Tanya? You're the expert on undeath.
In theory... a lich would have have a *reliquary*.

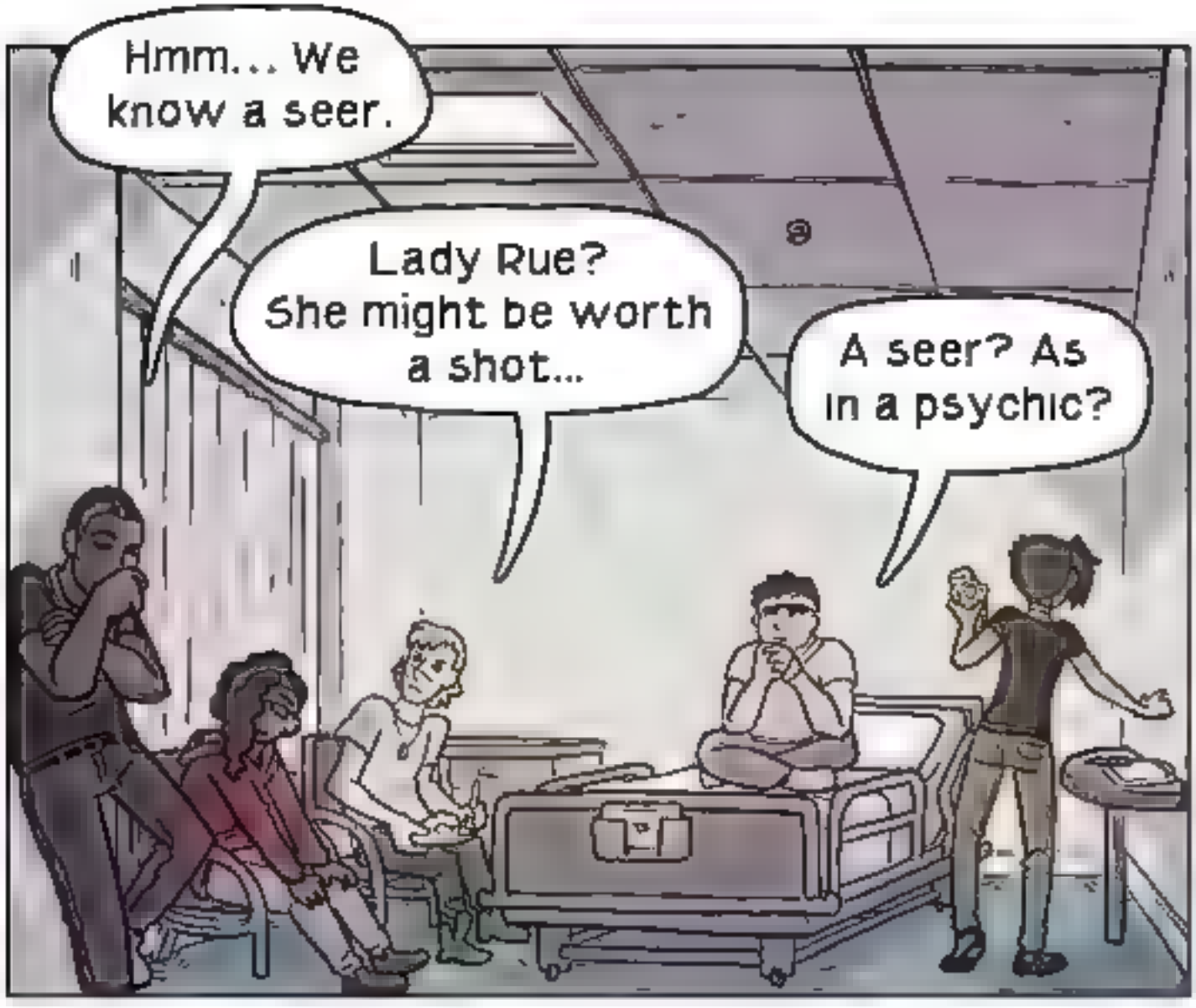
Somewhere it enshrined a part of itself when it...
...When it willingly chose the transition into undeath.

So long as his reliquary exists, the Hierophant can indefinitely... ***re-spawn*** from it.
It makes him effectively immortal. But, if his reliquary were ever destroyed...


That'd end him? For good?

No. NO!
It means he'd be on his last life! If anything, he'd become more cautious.
Or lash out in blind rage.
Scary.

So. We need to destroy the thing and, within very short order, destroy the Hierophant's body too. Damn, there's just no getting around fighting him face to face, is there?
Alex and my folks took him down once. It's possible.
Mmh. Doesn't matter if we can't find this reliquary.
SPIRIT BOMB
Okay. So. How do we do that?


Hmm... We know a seer.
Lady Rue? She might be worth a shot...
A seer? As in a psychic?

A witch.
Rue's the real deal. She specializes in finding what's hidden or lost.

We've hired her for a few cases. Mostly ones where a specific object was needed to help a spirit pass on.

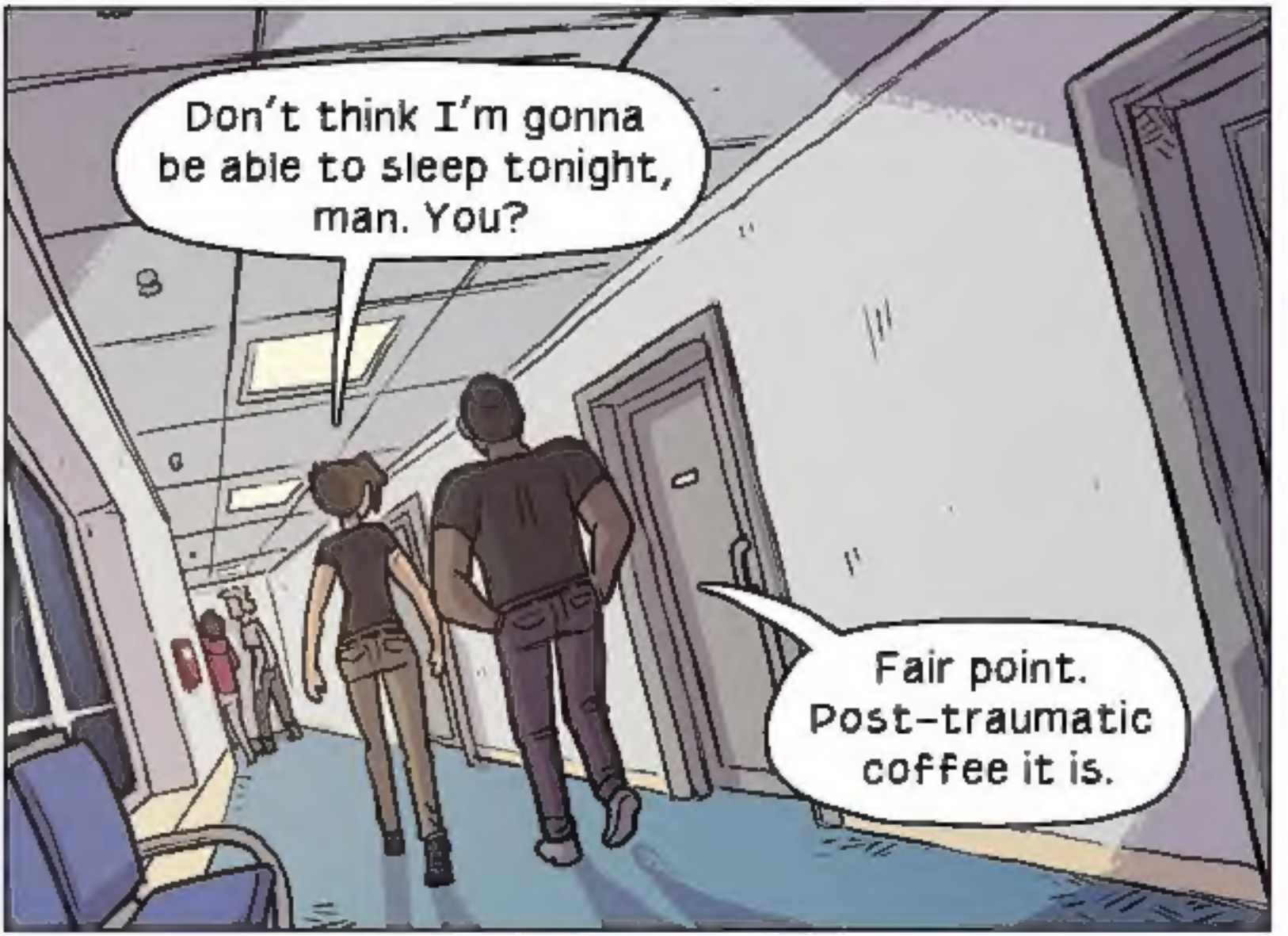
Fair warning, Rue comes at a high price.

Like ... you mean cash or "I want your voice, dearie"? Cause I got lots of monster killing dollars but...
Oh, haha! Yeah, cash.

Then we got us a lead dude!
Huh. Guess so.
Welp. Good luck. I'm done for the night.
S.P.I.
IDIOT JAR

Yeah same...
Night Dave.
Mmhm.

Hey uh... Troy. Wanna find some coffee?
It's one A.M.


Don't think I'm gonna be able to sleep tonight, man. You?
Fair point. Post-traumatic coffee it is.